

**Parents are a
child's first and
most important
teacher!**



**How Jump Start benefits the
Community:**

- Promotes development of healthy children
- Prepares children for entering school
- Enhances parenting skills
- Strengthens family relationships
- Prevents child abuse
- Prevents drug abuse
- Prevents violence



**Jump Start
Easter Seals
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Parents as Teachers

**Great
Parenting
Tips!**

Jump Start
presents....

JUMP START

**A Parent Education and
Support Program**

**"Giving children
a Jump Start
to a bright
future."**



Jump Start

What is Jump Start?

The Jump Start Prevention Initiative Program is a parenting enrichment program offered in Will county. It is a free program that offers parent education and family support services throughout pregnancy until their child reaches age 3.

The primary goal of Jump Start is to strengthen parent-child relationships, reinforce parenting skills, and promote child growth and development so that all children develop a strong foundation for learning.

Jump Start is one component program of Easter Seals. Funding is provided by an Illinois State Board of Education Prevention Initiative grant.

What do parents learn?

- The importance of reading, singing, rhyming, and responding to infants and young children.
- Basics of normal growth and development and age-appropriate expectations.
- How to discipline children without resorting to yelling or hitting.
- How to encourage and foster a child's self-esteem, mutual respect, cooperation, and potential.
- How to manage the stress of parenting
- Effective communication skills
- The variety of community resources available.

What services will be provided to families?

Personal visits- family home visits to help parents understand each stage of their child's development and to offer practical ideas on ways to encourage learning/literacy and interaction with their children.

Group parent meetings- group trainings that will give parents the opportunity to enhance their parenting knowledge, gain new insights and share their experiences, common concerns and successes.

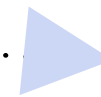
Parent-child interactive activities/ Play-group- provide activities that will model positive interaction, reinforce child development knowledge and provide quality time for parent-child bonding.

Developmental Screenings- regularly scheduled child developmental screenings for overall development, health, hearing, and vision. Screenings provide early detection of potential problems and prevent future difficulties in school.

Linkage to a Community Resource Network- provide families with help to access community services as needed. A Parent Resource Center will also be available to all Jump Start families.

Who can receive Jump Start services?

- Teen parents
- Grandparents raising grandchildren
- Low income families
- Parents with a low level of literacy
- A child with disabilities
- A parent with disabilities
- Chemical dependencies
- Homeless/transient/numerous family locations
- Low birth weight
- Involvement with mental health or social service agencies
- Ongoing health problem of child or parent
- Child with serious behavior concerns
- Suspected child abuse
- Foster Parents
- Involvement with the corrections system
- Other families that can benefit from Jump Start services



Call today to sign up for this free program!